WELCOME ABOARD PRECOMMISSIONING UNIT ZUMWALT (DDG 1000)

Congratulations on your assignment to the crew of the navy's newest and first in its Class, guided missile destroyer, PCU ZUMWALT (DDG 1000)! ZUMWALT is currently under construction at Bath Iron Works in Bath, Maine and due to deliver in 2014. ZUMWALT maintains a Precommissioning detachment located at the Training Support Center in Norfolk, VA. You can expect to spend a minimum of two months at the detachment prior to reporting to the Precommissioning Unit in Bath, ME. Based on current construction progress and delivery plans, crewmembers can expect to be in Maine through most of 2015. Sailors with families are encouraged to bring them to Maine. ZUMWALT's eventual homeport has not been finalized, but San Diego is the planned homeport with arrival there expected in mid-to-late 2016.

The ZUMWALT honors Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., who was one of the Navy's most accomplished leaders. His 35 year Naval career and service began in 1939 as a Midshipman at the U.S. Naval Academy and ended with his retirement in 1974. He was a highly decorated war veteran and the youngest to serve as Chief of Naval Operations. He played a major role in U.S. military history during World War II and the Cold War, especially during the Vietnam War. As CNO, he developed the plans for many of the ships and aircraft in service today and reformed U.S. Navy personnel policies in an effort to improve quality of life, eliminate racism, and provide equal opportunity for all Sailors service in the U.S. Navy. Admiral Zumwalt commanded a Bath Iron Works built ship, the USS DEWEY (DLG 14). Then Commander Zumwalt assumed command of the DEWEY at her commissioning in December 1959 and commanded her until June of 1961. Each of us joining the ZUMWALT team enjoys both a special burden and privilege of bringing the namesake of a beloved and respected CNO to the Fleet.

Our current ship's point of contact is Ms. Linda Robitaille, Executive Assistant to the Ship's Office, at <u>Linda.Robitaille.ctr@peosnap.navy.mil</u> or at (207) 442-5016.

I look forward to meeting and working with you as we prepare to take delivery of ZUMWALT. New construction duty is among the most challenging and rewarding assignments in our Navy and only the very best sailors are selected for this duty. You should be proud of this distinction.

WELCOME ABOARD!

CAPTAIN JAMES KIRK COMMANDING OFFICER PCU ZUMWALT (DDG 1000)